

**MINUTES**  
**CABARRUS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010**

**Supervisors Present:** Jeff Goforth, Ned Hudson, Bob Ritchie, Louis Suther

**Staff Present:** Amy Griffith, Daniel McClellan and Dennis Testerman

**Others Present:** Vicky and Tommy Porter and Grace Mynatt

**(1) Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Bob Ritchie at 6:23 p.m.

**(2) Approval of Agenda**

Item 7-F NCASWCD Community Conservation Committee and Item 7-G NCASWCD Legislative Committee were removed from the Agenda.

UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Agenda as amended.

**(3) Approval of Minutes**

UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Louis Suther and unanimously carried, the Board approved the August 3, 2010 minutes.

**(4) Consent Agenda**

There was a general discussion among the group regarding using Consent Agenda during the Board meetings. Item 4-C, Reappointment of Louis Suther, was pulled from the Consent Agenda.

UPON MOTION of Louis Suther, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the Board approved the amended Consent Agenda.

**(4-A) Approval of NCACSP Forms**

Mike Smith #13-11-01-16 HUAP \$3,274.00 (CS)  
- Cost Share Agreement  
- Conservation Plan of Operation  
- Conservation Plan of Operation Summary  
- Conservation Plan

Tommy Porter #13-11-03-16 CC-G \$2,925.00 (II)

- Addendum to Application for Assistance
- Cost Share Agreement
- Conservation Plan of Operation
- Conservation Plan of Operation Summary
- Conservation Plan

**(4-B) Matching Funds Form**

**(4-D) NCASWCD Water Resource Survey**

**(4-E) SWCD Liability Summary Sheet**

**(4-F) Staff Reports**

Dennis Testerman - CCAP applications are being promoted through targeted contracts; input was provided to the Cabarrus County Public Information office regarding questions to be asked during the biannual county public opinion poll; Earth Team volunteers have been active over the summer. Davidson College Biology Department faculty and students have conducted several research projects and Mejs Hasan has been working as an intern.

Daniel McClellan - District received annual allocation for best management practices August 4<sup>th</sup>. The District received \$34,213 of regular Ag Cost Share funds and \$12,318 of impaired and impacted watershed funds; Phil Fisher plans to have well down by October board meeting to meet his 6 month extension for Drought Grant funds deadline; Max Barrier has well drilled and plans to have pump and tank set by October board meeting to complete his 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of work in the 1<sup>st</sup> year deadline; Area Engineers are working on Scott London HUAP plans are to survey area this month; attended District Employees workshop August 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> in Waynesville. The agriculture tracks consisted of visiting Cold Mountain Nursery to look at an agri-chemical handling facility and micro-irrigation. The classroom portion of the training consisted of wells for agriculture, fundamentals of concrete for agriculture bmps, micro-irrigation, culvert sizing and watershed modeling, guttering design, and tools for measuring reduction in nitrogen, phosphorous, and soil loss.

Amy Griffith - staff now share a MS Outlook Contacts list with over 3,000 entries that can be used for distribution of newsletters and other information; working on organizing files and office to streamline daily operations; participating on Employee Appreciation Committee for annual meal event in October; represented SWCD at Communications & Outreach Committee meeting. Possibility of creating SWCD/Big Sweep Facebook pages is being explored. Changes to SWCD website pages are in the works as county transitions to a portal-based format.

## **(5) Unfinished Business**

### **(5-A) SWCD Strategic Planning Retreat**

Bob Ritchie stated the Planning Retreat would be held October 21, 2010 at Camp Spencer. A list of prior invitees was shown to Board members. There was a discussion among the group regarding who to invite to the Retreat, as well as a possible neutral facilitator of the meeting.

### **(5-B) Conservation Easement at Cox Mill Elementary**

Dennis Testerman stated approximately two years ago, the County Commissioners approved the Conservation Easement on the Cox Mill Elementary school 100-year floodplain. A boundary survey of the easement was drawn up, but a grant proposal from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund for \$1.8 million storm water retrofit was deferred last year due to funding. The Clean Water Management Trust Fund Board will now consider the grant at their meeting October 10-11, 2010. Mr. Testerman said ranking for this project is high; therefore we should receive the funding. A contract lawyer from Salisbury was hired by the District to prepare draft documents of the easement. There was a discussion among the Board and staff regarding the actual location of the easement. Signatures should be obtained by the County Commissioners on the easement document so action can be taken at the Soil and Water Board meeting on October 5, 2010.

## **(6) New Business**

### **(6-A) NCASWCD Area 8 Fall Meeting**

Meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2010 at the Woodmill Winery in Vale, NC, on the other side of Lincolnton, NC. Staff will work on providing a door prize for the meeting.

### **(6-B) County Funding for Land Protection Initiatives**

Dennis Testerman discussed the Capital Improvement Project program and prospects for conservation easements in reference to the upcoming budget process. Staff needs some guidance from the Board on how to proceed with the requests. There was a discussion among the group regarding rankings and funding. It was suggested to look at other counties, especially Buncombe County, for ways to get funding.

## **(7) Information/Reports**

### **(7-A) Chairman's Report**

Bob Ritchie stated he, Ned Hudson and Louis Suther attended the Piedmont Natural Gas pipeline meeting at the Embassy Suites on August 17, 2010. Mr. Ritchie said he was a little disappointed that there were not more people from Concord and Cabarrus County in attendance. There is a proposed alternative route that goes above Clarke Creek and above Cox Mill Elementary School. Letters will be going out to individual property owners regarding the pipeline. Piedmont Natural Gas has a Foundation to fund conservation projects. Staff will research the Foundation for a possible grant.

### **(7-B) Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners**

Grace Mynatt encourages the Board to be persistent in asking the Board of Commissioners for funding and ask for a significant amount of funding in the Piedmont Natural Gas grant. The Board of Commissioners may offer matching funds as well.

### **(7-C) Cabarrus County Watershed Improvement Commission**

Dennis Testerman stated the Watershed Improvement Commission is considering approaching the Board of Commissioners about rules and regulations regarding floodplains and bonding of developers.

### **(7-D) NC Foundation for S&W Conservation & NCASWCD Leadership Initiative**

Ned Hudson reported on the following: The Foundation has hired a part-time administrative assistant; there are three proposals pending for funding - Wal-Mart, Z. Smith Reynolds and lagoon closure. Altria has indicated they will not be providing additional funding for the Association's leadership training; Bill Davis and Mr. Hudson were reelected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively; there will be training September 21 and 22, 2010 at RTP for the Leadership Initiative and Mitch Owens will be the facilitator; Dick Fowler has begun service as the Association's Executive Director and will work out of the an office in the Archdale Building.

### **(7-E) NC S&W Conservation Commission**

Vicky Porter reported on the following: has attended three Commission meetings and is the only non-supervisor on the Commission. The Commission is concerned that some counties (not Cabarrus) are being given money and is not using those funds.

### **(7-F) NCASWCD Community Conservation Committee**

Nothing to report.

**(7-G) NCASWCD Legislative Committee**

Nothing to report.

**(4-C) Reappointment of Louis Suther**

UPON MOTION of Ned Hudson, seconded by Jeff Goforth and unanimously carried, the Board approved the reappointment of Louis Suther as Board Supervisor.

**(8) Adjourn**

UPON MOTION of Jeff Goforth, seconded by Ned Hudson and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

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Bob Ritchie, Chairman

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Ned Hudson, Secretary-Treasurer